



December 23, 2015

Dear Partners:

This is special invitation for you to attend our FIREWISE How To Have A Firewise Home event to be held at the **Multi-Purpose Building, 68 Collins Industrial Park Drive, Collins, MS on Thursday, February 18, 2016**. This program is part of a new initiative led in our state by the Mississippi Forestry Commission to achieve fire safe planning and development in the wildland/urban interface ... that fringe area of our communities where homes are frequently damaged or destroyed by wildland fire. Evaluations for similar field days in other states indicated that the participants found the information and exercises very beneficial.

As our Mississippi public continues to build homes in areas that have traditionally been forests or wildlands, disastrous wildfires occur more and more frequently. We will likely continue to experience damaging wildfires in the wildland/urban interface until people begin to work together to solve basic community planning issues at the local level.

The How To Have A Firewise Home program is a one-half day event, bringing together citizens, business and community leaders involved in planning, financing, building, sustaining and protecting communities in the wildland/urban interface. Participants will learn about why homes burn, various wildland fuel reduction techniques and how to assess the fire danger of their own home.

I have enclosed directions and a map to the program site at the Multi-Purpose Building and a pre-registration form. Please complete the pre-registration form and return by mail or fax to 601-268-2778 by February 4, 2016. We believe that this program may have a significant impact on wildland protection in your area. If you cannot personally attend, please designate someone to represent you. There is no charge for your participation and lunch will be provided. **Pre-registration is a must for the noon meal head count.**

Registration will begin at 6:00 p.m. The program will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. and end at approximately 9:15 p.m.

We value your participation in the program and look forward to seeing you on February 18, 2016. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Rick Wilkins at 601-517-9992 or Lenora Haynes at 601-307-6728.

Registered Foresters attending the field day will be eligible for 2.0 CFE Hours Category 2, Loggers will receive 2.0 hours in Category II and Realtors will receive 3.0 hrs of elective Real Estate Course (10181). Professional credits are not available for teachers and professional disciplines.

Sincerely,
Your Name
Title

The Mississippi Forestry Commission provides equal employment opportunity and services to all individuals regardless of disability, race, age, religion, color, gender, creed, nation origin or political affiliation. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.